



0.3-25.02 9P 3738

PATENT  
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 01942-00007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

|  |   |                |
|--|---|----------------|
| In re Application of:  | ) |                |
| Eija Pirhonen et al.   | ) | Examiner:      |
| Serial No.: 10/006,796   | ) | Art Unit: 3738 |
| Filed: December 4, 2001  | ) |                |
| Title: BIODEGRADABLE IMPLANT AND<br>METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING ONE | ) |                |

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

In regard to the above identified application, we are transmitting herewith the attached:

1. Information Disclosure Statement,
2. Form PTO-1499,
3. Copies of eleven (11) references, and
4. Return postcard.

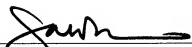
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

March 22, 2002

By

  
John P. Iwanicki, Reg. No. 34,628  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.  
28 State Street, 28th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 227-7111

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#4

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.99, Applicants submit the references listed on the enclosed PTO form 1449. Copies of these references are enclosed. This Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with the continuing duty of candor as set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.56 and is being filed before the mailing date of a first office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee is due.

In the judgment of the undersigned, portions of the listed references may be material to the Examiner's consideration of the presently pending claims. However, the references have not been reviewed in sufficient detail to make any other representation and, in particular, no representation is intended as to the relative importance of any portion of the references. This

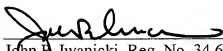
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statement is not a representation that the listed references have effective dates early enough to be "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. § 102 or § 103.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 19-0733.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 22, 2002

By   
John H. Iwanicki, Reg. No. 34,628  
BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.  
28 State Street, 28th Floor  
Boston, MA 02109  
(617) 227-7111

**Art Cited in the Specification for  
"Biodegradable Implant and Method for Manufacturing One"  
USSN 10/006,796, Filed December 4, 2001**

U.S. Pat. 5,525,646  
U.S. Pat. 5,919,234  
PCT application no. WO 96/34634

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Kyriacos A. Athanasiou, Mauli Agrawal, Alan Barber, Stephen S. Burkkhart, "Orthopaedic Application for PLA-Pga Biodegradable Polymers," *The Journal of Arthroscopic and Related Surgery*, 14 (7):726-737 (October 1988).

Dietmar Hutmacher, Markus B. Hürzeler, Henning Schliephake, "A Review of Material Properties of Biodegradable and Bioresorbable Polymers and Devices for GTR and GBR Applications," *The International Journal of Oral & Maxillofacial Implants*, 11(5):667-678 (1996).

William S. Pietrzak, "Critical Concepts of Absorbable Internal Fixation," Portland Bone Symposium, Portland, Oregon, August 4-7, 1999.

R. Suuronen, "Biodegradable fracture-fixation devices in maxillofacial surgery," *Int. J. Oral Maxillofac. Surg.*, 22: 50-57 (1993).

Jan Tams, Cornelis A.P. Joziase, Ruud R.M. Bos, Fred R. Rozema, Dirk W. Grijpma and Albert J. Pennings, "High-impact poly(L/D-lactide) for fracture fixation: *in vitro* degradation and animal pilot study," *Biomaterials*, 16(18):1409-1415 (1995).

Donald L. Wise, Debra J. Trantolo, David E. Altobelli, Michael J. Yaszemski, Joseph D. Gresser, Edith R. Schwartz, *Encyclopedic Handbook of Biomaterials and Bioengineering, Part A*, by Marcel Dekker, Inc., pages 977 to 1007 (1992).